

CHINA

THE



MAIL.

Established February, 1845,

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

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號八月二年九十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1879.

日八月正年卯己

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street; GEORGE STREET, & Co., 30, Cornhill; GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C.; BATES, HENDY & Co., 4, Old Jewry; E.C.; SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE ROSNY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 138, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BEAR & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore; C. HEINZEN & Co., Manila.

CHINA:—MACAO, MESSRS A. A. DE MELLO & Co., Macao; CAMPBELL & CO., AMoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & Co., Foochow; HEDGE & Co., Shanghai; LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WILSON, Yokohama; LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL,.....5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND,.....1,200,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOS, Esq. A. MCIVOR, Esq.
H. L. DALYMPLE, WILHELM RUEHRS, Esq.
H. HOPFUS, Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq.
Hon. W. KESWICK.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong,.....THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER.

Shanghai,.....EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East,
Hongkong, November 26, 1878.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON FIXED DEPOSITS.
At 3 months' notice 5% per Annum.
" 6 " 4% " "
" 12 " 6% " "

On Current Accounts at Rates which can be ascertained at their Office.

D. A. J. CROMBIE,
Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation,
Hongkong, November 23, 1878.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CAPITAL,.....£800,000,
RESERVE FUND,.....£150,000.

Banks.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE CITY BANK.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in Hongkong grants Drafts on London and the chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

On Current Accounts, 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits.

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

" 12 " 6% " "

FOR SALE.

FINE NEW FIGS, direct from Smyrna, Brazil and Barcelona NUTS.

LETT'S DIARIES for 1879.

Central and Pin Fire CARTRIDGE CASES.

CLOTH and FELT GUN-WADS.

American PARLOUR and COOKING STOVES.

COAL SCUTTLES, new designs.

FENDERS and FIRE IRONS.

COCOA MATTING.

TAPESTRY CARPET.

DOOR MATS.

California LAMBSWOOL BLANKETS.

WHITNEY BLANKETS.

REP and other TABLE COVERS,

Fancy Patterns.

TABLE LINEN. Fine TURKISH TOWELS.

LINEN SHEETING, PILLOW LINEN.

GREEN and MARONE REP.

FLANNEL SHIRTINGS.

FANCY FLANNEL for Gents' Suits.

NAVY BLUE SERGE.

CLOTH TROWER LENGTHS,

Assorted Patterns.

ALBUMS, in great variety.

CRUMB BRUSHES and TRAYS.

CHUBB'S CASH and DEED BOXES.

VEYRON'S AUTOMATIC COFFEE MACHINES.

COFFEE ROASTERS, TREMBLING CALL BELLS.

IMPERIAL TRACING CLOTH.

DESSERT, DINNER and BREAK-FAST SERVICES.

TABLE GLASSWARE, of every Description.

FOLDING CHAIRS.

CIGARS, CIGARETTES.

KELLY'S FAMOUS CUT TOBACCO.

HOUSEHOLD STORES, of every Description.

CLARET in Casks. MALT, HOPS, CAUSTIC SODA, CANADIAN POTASH.

CARBOLIC ACID, CHLORIDE OF LIME, &c., &c., &c.

LAMMERT, ATKINSON & CO.

Hongkong, November 18, 1878.

NOW READY.

MAP & CHART OF COREA,

BY N. MCLEOD,

CONTAINING EXTRACTS from AN-

cient History, including latest

STATISTICS.

BATTLE OF GOG & MAGOG.

COMING DOWNFALL OF RUSSIA,

AND

JAPAN'S BEST POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Price.....One Dollar.

To be had at the principal Booksellers in India, China, and Japan.

ALSO

ORDERS TAKEN FOR

ILLUSTRATED WORK AND TEXT-

BOOK ON COREA,

(Nearly Ready), Price \$2.

MAP AND CHART OF JAPAN,

Price \$1.

JAPAN AND THE LOST TRIBES OF

ISRAEL,

Price \$2.

ILLUSTRATIONS TO LOST TRIBES OF ISRAEL,

Price \$2.

LAMMERT, ATKINSON & CO.,

Hongkong, February 4, 1879.

1. S. A. M. H. I. N. G.

S. T. U. L. T. Z.

HAS JUST RECEIVED PER "SPERENZEN,"

AND

HAS FOR SALE—

NEW PATTERNS in CARPETS.

WINDOW CURTAINS of all kinds.

TABLE CLOTHS & TABLE NAPKINS,

HATS in every style.

DRESS BOOTS, and SHOES.

88 and 90, Queen's Road Central,

Hongkong, December 11, 1878.

6. HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO

STEAMBOAT COMPANY,

LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND at the RATE of 5%,

or \$2.25 per SHARE, declared at

the Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of Share-

holders held This Day, will be Payable at

the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION on and after FRIDAY Next,

the 1st Instant.

Shareholders are requested to apply at

the Office of the Company for Warrants.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

P. A. DA COSTA,

Secretary.

Hongkong, January 26, 1879.

For Sale.

EX-LATE ARRIVALS.

WOOLLEN SOCKS, DRAWERS and UNDERSHIRTS.

LETT'S DIARIES. LETT'S DIARIES.

RIDING WHIPS, BRIDLES and PONY HARNESS.

RUG STRAPS, YORK HAMS, CHIT BOOKS.

HORSE CLIPPERS, FILTERS, SILVER LAMPS.

French and English BOOTS and SHOES.

HOSE CLIPPERS, CHUBB'S FIREPROOF SAFES.

WALAMANDERS for Heating Baths.

WORKS OF REFERENCE, California APPLES.

HAIR BRUSHES, BILLIARD CLOTHS.

COPYING PRESSES, CHUBB'S HATS.

SCARFS, COLLARS, KID GLOVES.

FOOD WARMERS, CIGARETTES.

CRICKET BATS, BALLS, GLOVES, &c.

PATAGA'S HAVANA CIGARS.

BATH TOWELS, PAINT BOXES.

DAMASK for Table Cloths, STATIONERY.

PATENT WATER CLOSETS, POCKET BOOKS.

DOG COLLARS and CHAINS, TENNIS BALLS.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS, VALISES.

Ladies' and Gentlemen's DRESSING BAGS, FITTED.</

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of Mr. WALTER SCOTT FITZ, in our Firm in Hongkong and China, CEASED on the 31st December last.

Mr. CHARLES VINOENT SMITH is admitted a Partner from this Date.

RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, January 1, 1879.

NOTICE.

I HAVE admitted Captain EDWARD BURNIE to an interest in my Business of MARINE SURVEYOR.

R. H. CAIRNS.

Club Chambers,
Hongkong, February 6, 1879.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day ESTABLISHED myself as a COMMISSION MERCHANT, &c., at No. 2, Queen's Road, under the Style of "J. G. SMITH & Co."

J. GRANT SMITH.

Hongkong, January 1, 1879.

NOTICE.

MR. EZEKIEL ABRAHAM SOLOMON has been admitted a Partner in our Firm at this Port and in China, from 1st January, 1879.

E. D. SASSOON & Co.

Hongkong, January 24, 1879.

NOTICE.

MR. ROBERT BERNHARD has This Day CEASED to be a Partner in our Business.

HEINEMANN & Co.,
Ship Brokers.

Hongkong, January 17, 1879.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day ESTABLISHED myself as GENERAL MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT at this Port. During my temporary absence from China, my Business will be CONDUCTED by Mr. EDWARD DAVIS, who is also authorized to sign my name per Procurat.

F. R. TALBOT.

Canton, February 8, 1879.

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of the Undersigned in the Chinese Mail, 船上 (Wah Tse Yat Po), LEASED from the 1st August, 1877, but Debts prior to that Date will be received and paid by him.

CHUN AYIN.

Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

NOTICE.

IN Reference to the above, the Undersigned has LEASED the Chinese Mail from the 1st August, 1877, and has engaged the services of Mr. LEONG YOOK CHUN, as Translator and General Manager of the newspaper, which under its new regime will be found to be, as hitherto, an excellent medium for advertising, especially as the Manager is able to devote his whole attention to the conduct of the Newspaper.

KONG CHIM,

Leasee of the Hongkong Chinese Mail.

Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

TO LET.

TO LET. PORTION of a HOUSE, very suitable for OFFICES and DWELLING, also for a STORE, Queen's Road Central. Possession 1st March next.

Apply to LANDSTEIN & Co.

Hongkong, February 4, 1879.

TO LET.

IN the Houses on MARINE LOT 65, formerly known as the Blue Houses, situated on Praya East.

FIRST FLOOR, No. 2, with possession 1st February.

HOUSE No. 4, Praya East, either the whole House or in Flats, with possession on the 1st April next.

As also,

A FRONT and BACK ROOM in the Dwelling to the eastward of the Pier, with part of its spacious Verandah, Immediate Possession.

TO LET.

FIRST CLASS GRANITE GODOWNS, attached to Blue Houses at Wanghai, MARINE Lot 65.

Also,

A SPACIOUS TIMBER YARD, close to the Wanghai Pier. Timber received on Storage or the Yard Rented.

For further particulars, apply to

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, August 16, 1878.

TO BE LET.

TWO Excellent STONE-FLOORED GODOWNS, on Marine Lot No. 10, Praya Central.

Apply to TURNER & Co.

Hongkong, August 1, 1878.

TO LET.

FIRST-CLASS OFFICES and GODOWNS, Nos. 54 and 60, Praya Central.

Apply to WO HANG,

Nos. 6 and 7, Praya West.

Hongkong, January 9, 1879.



NOTICES.

NOTICE.

NOTICE

THE CHINA MAIL.

POSTAL RATES.

[Subjoined we give the postal rates now in force for transmission of correspondence to all parts of the world. Detailed rules affecting the transmission of packets, parcels, &c., will be found annexed, together with a number of miscellaneous and useful notices.]

Hongkong Rates of Postage.

(Revised June 7th, 1878.)

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are for Letters, per half ounce, for Books and Patterns, per two ounces.

Newspapers over four ounces in weight are charged as double, treble, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packets of papers may be sent at Book Rate. Two Newspapers must not be folded together as one, nor must anything whatever be inserted except bona fide Supplements. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the whole be paid at Book Rate. Prices Current may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

N.R. means No Registration.

Countries of the Postal Union.

The Union may be taken to comprise Europe, most foreign possessions in Asia, Japan, W. Africa, Egypt, Mauritius, all N. America, Brazil, Peru, The Argentine Republic, Jamaica, Trinidad, Guiana, Honduras, Bermuda, Labuan, with all Danish, French, Netherlands, Portuguese, and Spanish Colonies.

Countries not in the Union.—The chief countries not in the Union are: the Australasian Group, and Central America.

Postage to Union Countries.

General Rates, by any route:—
Letters, 12 cents per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Registration, 8 cents.
Newspapers, 2 cents each.
Books and Patterns, 4 cents per 2 oz.

Exceptional rates, to the United Kingdom and Union Countries served through the United Kingdom via Brindisi only:—
Letters, 16 cents per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Registration, 8 cents.
Newspapers, 4 cents each.
Books and Patterns, 6 cents per 2 oz.

There is no charge on redirected correspondence within the Postal Union.

Postage to Non-Union Countries.

Aspinwall (N.R.), Bahamas, Guatemala (N.R.), Hayti (N.R.), Mexico (N.R.), Panama (N.R.), Salvador (N.R.), and Venezuela (N.R.):—
Via San Francisco, or Marseilles, Brindisi.

Letters, 16 81 38
Registration, None, 12 4 6
Newspapers, 4 4 6
Books & Patterns, 6 8 10

Bolivia, Chili, Costa Rica (N.R.), Ecuador (N.R.), New Granada (N.R.), Nicaragua (N.R.):—
Letters, 30 34 38
Newspapers, 6 6 8
Books & Patterns, 14 10 12
Registration, 12. None. None.

Hawaiian Kingdom:—
Letters, 16 16 20
Registration, None. None. None.
Newspapers, 4* 4 6
Books & Patterns, 8* 6 8

W. Indies (except as above), Paraguay, Uruguay:—
Letters, — 34 38
Newspapers, — 4 6
Books & Patterns, — 8 10
Registration to British & Union West Indies only:— 8 8

Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, Natal, Cape, St. Helena, Ascension.
Letters, by Contract Packet 24; by Private Ship 12, Registration, 12; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 4.

* A small extra charge is made on delivery.

title and date of publication of the newspaper printed at the top of every page; or, if it consists of engravings, prints, or lithographs, at the top of every sheet or side.

A packet containing two or more newspapers is not chargeable with a higher rate of postage than would be chargeable on a book packet of the same weight.

The postage must be prepaid either by an adhesive stamp, or by the use of a stamped wrapper.

Every newspaper must be posted either without a cover (in which case it must not be fastened, whether by means of gum, wafer, sealing wax, postage stamp, or otherwise) or in a cover entirely open at both ends, so as to admit of easy removal for examination. If this rule be infringed the newspaper is treated as a letter.

Every newspaper must be so folded, as to admit of the title being readily inscribed.

A newspaper or packet of newspapers which contains any enclosure except supplements is charged as a letter, unless the enclosure be such as might be sent at the book rate of postage, and the entire packet so sufficiently prepaid as a book packet, in which case it is allowed to pass.

A newspaper which has any letter, or any communication of the nature of a letter, written in it or upon its cover, is charged as an unpaid or insufficiently paid letter.

No packet of newspapers may be above 5 lbs. in weight, nor above two feet in length, one foot in width, nor one in depth.

A book-packet may contain any number of separate books or other publications (including printed or lithographed letters), photographs (when not on glass or in cases containing glass or any like substance), drawings, prints, or maps, and any quantity of paper, or any other substance in ordinary use for writing or printing upon; and the books or other publications, prints, maps, &c., may be either printed, written, engraved, lithographed, or plain, or any mixture of these. Further, all legitimate binding, mounting, or covering of a book, &c., or of a portion thereof, is allowed, whether such binding, &c., be loose or attached; as also rollers in the case of prints or maps, markers (whether of paper or otherwise) in the case of books, pens or pencils in the case of pocket-books, &c., and, in short, whatever is necessary for the safe transmission of such articles, or usually appertains thereto; but the binding, rollers, &c., must not be sent as a separate packet.

Circulars, i.e., letters which are intended for transmission in identical terms to several persons, and the whole or the greater part of which is printed, engraved, or lithographed, may also be sent by book post.

But a book-packet may not contain any letter, or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise), unless it be a circular-letter or be wholly printed; nor any enclosure sealed or in any way closed against inspection. If this rule be infringed, the entire packet is charged as a letter.

A book-packet may be posted either without a cover (in which case it must not be fastened, whether by means of gum, wafer, sealing wax, postage stamp, or otherwise) or in a cover entirely open at both ends, so as to admit of the contents being easily withdrawn for examination; otherwise it is treated as a letter. For the greatest security of the contents, however, it may be tied at the ends with string; Postmasters being authorised to cut the string in such cases, although if they do so they must again tie up the packet.

No book-packet may be above 5 lbs. in weight, nor above 24 inches in length, 12 inches in width, or 12 inches in depth, unless it be sent to or from one of the following offices.

When owing to a great and unusual influx of letters, books, &c., the transmission or delivery of the letters would be delayed if the whole mail were dealt with without distinction, book-packets may be kept back till the next despatch or delivery.

PATTERNS.

They must not be of intrinsic value. This rule excludes all articles of a saleable nature, and indeed whatever may have a value of its own, apart from its use as a pattern; and the quantity of any material sent ostensibly as a pattern must not be so great that it can fairly be considered as having on this ground an intrinsic value.

Pattern and Sample Post to colonies and foreign countries is restricted to bona fide trade patterns or samples of merchandise. Goods sent for sale, or in execution of an order (however small the quantity may be), or any articles sent by one private individual to another, which are not actual patterns or samples, are not admissible.

Patterns or samples, when practicable, must be sent in covers at the ends, and in such a manner as to be easy of examination. Samples of seeds, drugs, and such like articles, which cannot be sent in covers of this kind, but such articles only, may be posted enclosed in boxes, or bags of linen or other material, fastened in such a manner that they may be readily opened; or, in the case of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., in bags entirely closed, provided such closed bags are transparent, so as to enable the Officers of the Post Office readily to satisfy themselves as to the nature of the contents.

There must be no writing or printing upon or in any packet except the address of the person for whom it is intended, the address of the sender, a trade mark or number, and the price of the articles.

The rule which forbids the transmission through the Post of any article likely to injure the contents of the Mail Bag or Boxes, or the person of any Officer of the Post Office is, of course, applicable to the Pattern Post; and a packet containing anything of the kind will be stopped, and not sent to its destination. Articles such as the following have been occasionally posted as Patterns and have been detained as unfit for the Post, viz.: Metal boxes, porcelain and China, fruit, vegetables, bunches of flowers, fittings of plants, spurs, knives, scissors, needles, pins, pieces of machinery, sharp pointed instruments, samples of metals, samples of ore, samples in glass bottles, pieces of glass, odds of various kinds, curvy combs, copper and steel engraving plates, and confectionery of all kinds.

Such articles as scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, provided that they be packed and guarded in so secure a manner as to afford

complete protection to the contents of the mail bag and to the Officers of the Post Office, while at the same time they may be easily examined, may be sent as samples. Indigo cannot be sent to any place.

To provide the greatest possible facilities for posting Correspondence for Europe, &c., up to the latest moment before the departure of the French Packets, arrangements have been made for receiving at the Post Office late letters—*except those to and through Australia*—from 11.10 A.M. to 11.30 A.M. Each letter must bear a late fee of 18 cents extra postage.

A similar supplementary Mail is made up for Shanghai by the English and French Contract Steamers, the latter being received from 10 minutes, after, up to half an hour after the time of closing. The late fee is also 18 cents.

Miscellaneous Notices.

Local Delivery.

1. All correspondence posted before 5 p.m. on any week day for addressees in Victoria will be delivered the same day, and generally within two hours, unless the delivery should be retarded by the Contract Mails.

2. Invitations, &c., can generally be delivered within Victoria at the private houses of the addressees rather than at places of business, if a wish to that effect be expressed by the sender, otherwise all correspondence is invariably delivered at the nearest place of business. (See Postal Guide, par. 103.)

3. Boxholders who desire to send Circulars, Dividend Warrants, Invitations, Cards, &c., all of the same weight, to addresses in Hongkong, Bangkok, or the Ports of China and Japan, may deliver them to the Post Office un stamped, the postage being then charged to the sender's account. Each box must consist of at least ten.

4. Boxholders may also send Patterns to the same places in the same way. Envelopes containing Patterns may be wholly closed if the nature of the contents be first exhibited or stated to the Postmaster General, as he may consider necessary, and approved by him. Printed Circulars may be inserted in such Pattern Packets.

Local Parcel Post.

1. Small Parcels may be sent by Post between any of the British Post Offices in China or Japan, as well as to Macao, Fuzhou, Singapore, Penang, and Malacca. They must not exceed the following dimensions: 2 feet long, 1 foot broad, 1 foot deep, nor weigh more than 6 lbs. The postage will be 20 cents per lb., which will include Registration. The parcels may be wholly closed if they bear this special endorsement.

2. The following cannot be transmitted: Parcels insufficiently packed or protected, or liable to be crushed (as bandboxes, &c.); Glass, Liquids, Explosive substances, Matches, Indigo, Dyestuffs, Ice, Meat, Fish, Game, Fruits, Vegetables, or whatever is dangerous to the Mail, or likely to be some offensive or injurious in transit.

3. Parcels will as a general rule be forwarded by Private Ship, not by Contract Mail Packet. The Post Office reserves the right of selecting the opportunity for transmission, and of delaying delivery in case the number of parcels is such as to retard other correspondence. No responsibility is accepted with regard to any parcel, but the system of Registration will secure the senders against any but a very remote probability of loss.

4. The public are cautioned not to confound these facilities with a *Parcel Post to Europe*, &c., which does not exist.

Mails exchanged with Manila and Saigon.

The Philippine Islands being now admitted into the General Postal Union, it follows that all paid correspondence received from Manila in the mails will be delivered free by this Office, and that all paid correspondence sent to Manila in the mails should be delivered free there.

Article IX of the Postal Treaty of Borneo provides that "Neither the senders nor the addressees of letters and other postal packets shall be called upon to pay, either in the Country of Origin, or in that of Destination, any tax or duty other than" the recognised rates levied (in the case of paid correspondence) by the despatching Office. It is hoped that any extra charge, or apparently extra charge, will at once be brought to the notice of the proper authorities in either Colony.

The above does not apply in any to loose letters sent outside the mails. These will always be charged on arrival in Hongkong and probably the Manila Office will adopt the same course.

Complaints are sometimes received of extra charges on correspondence exchanged between this Colony and Saigon, but it is believed it would be found in all cases that the letters, &c., had been sent loose.

Any Foreign stamp on loose correspondence are obliterated in this Office.

Indian Correspondents.

Unpaid Letters are not received for the Indian Mail Packets.

The Prepayment of correspondence for the Straits, India, Ceylon, and Aden is compulsory by whatever opportunity it is forwarded.

There must be no writing or printing upon or in any packet except the address of the person for whom it is intended, the address of the sender, a trade mark or number, and the price of the articles.

The rule which forbids the transmission through the Post of any article likely to injure the contents of the Mail Bag or Boxes, or the person of any Officer of the Post Office is, of course, applicable to the Pattern Post; and a packet containing anything of the kind will be stopped, and not sent to its destination. Articles such as the following have been occasionally posted as Patterns and have been detained as unfit for the Post, viz.: Metal boxes, porcelain and China, fruit, vegetables, bunches of flowers, fittings of plants, spurs, knives, scissors, needles, pins, pieces of machinery, sharp pointed instruments, samples of metals, samples of ore, samples in glass bottles, pieces of glass, odds of various kinds, curvy combs, copper and steel engraving plates, and confectionery of all kinds.

Such articles as scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, provided that they be packed and guarded in so secure a manner as to afford

the letter, and the commanding Officer must sign his name, with name of Regiment, or Ship, &c., in full.

3. If to a Soldier or Sailor, his class or description must be stated in full, with name of Regiment, or Ship, &c., in full.

4. Mails for the United Kingdom, &c., by French Packet.

Under instructions from the London Post Office, the Mails for the United Kingdom which have hitherto been forwarded via Marselles, will henceforth be forwarded via Naples, as it is understood that a gain of twelve hours results from the adoption of this route.

It would be extremely inconvenient to divide the mail, and no practical advantage would result from doing so, all correspondence intended for the United Kingdom by French Packet will be sent via Naples, even though marked via Marselles.

An impression appears to prevail that correspondence for the Mediterranean stations, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, the Levant, Turkey, &c., can be forwarded only by British Packet. It can be forwarded also by French Packet, and is so forwarded generally arrives a week earlier than if it had been detained for the British Mail.

The Post Office is not, by law, responsible for any loss or inconvenience which may arise from the non-delivery, mis-delivery, or mis-delivery of any letter, book, or other postal packet (even if the packet be registered) nor is the Post Office responsible for any injury which a packet may sustain during its transmission.

To guard against such injury all postal packets which are likely to suffer from stamping or from great pressure should be placed in strong covers; and even with this precaution no fragile article should be sent through the Post. It should be remembered that every packet has to be handled several times; it is exposed to considerable pressure and friction in the mail bag; and that, whenever the bag has in the course of its transmission to be transferred by means of the railway apparatus, the risk of injury is much increased.

No information can be given respecting letters which pass through a Post Office except to the persons to whom they are addressed; and in no other way is official information of a private character allowed to be made public. A Postmaster may, however, give an address if he has no reason to believe that the person whose address it is would disapprove of his doing so.

Postmasters are not allowed to return any letter or other packet to the writer or sender, or to any one else, or to delay forwarding it to its destination according to the address, even though a request to such effect be written thereon.

Postmasters are not bound to weigh any letters or other packets for the public, but they may do so if their duty is not thereby impeded.

The practice of sealing letters passing to and from the East and West Indies, and other countries with hot climates, with wax (except such as is specially prepared), is attended with much inconvenience, and frequently with serious injury, not only to the letters so sealed but to the other letters in the mail, from the melting of the wax and adhesion of the letters to each other. The public are therefore recommended, in all such cases, to use either wafers or gum, and to advise their correspondents in the countries referred to, to do the same.

The registration of a packet makes its transmission much more secure, inasmuch as under ordinary circumstances, a registered packet can be traced through its whole course; and thus the loss of a registered packet is a very rare occurrence. Nevertheless large sums of money or other articles of great value should not be sent through the post, even if the packet be registered; as the machinery of the Department is not arranged with a view to such transmission. By law, the Post Office is not responsible for the safe delivery of registered packets; though any officer who may neglect his duty on this point will be called to strict account. Sent in unregistered letters, valuable articles are exposed to risk, and offer a temptation which ought not to be created; and the Department cannot in any way undertake the safe conveyance of such packets. All inland or colonial letters, therefore, which contain coin, and all inland letters which contain watches or jewellery, even though they be posted without registration, are treated as registered, and charged on delivery with a double registration fee of eighteen pence in addition to the ordinary postage; and any such letter which cannot be registered in time to be forwarded by the Mail for which they are posted are detained for the next despatch. Even if the letter do not contain any article of intrinsic value, it should, if it very important, be registered.

4. No order must exceed £10, or include any fraction of a penny. Orders will be drawn at the current rate of the day and paid at the rate of the day when the advice arrived.

Fancy Work, and similar presents are continually being refused, the senders having often spent more in Postage than would have paid the freight by steamer. No refund can be made on such parcels of the value of Stamps obliterated before the nature of the contents was discovered.

PATTERNS.—Some difficulty is experienced in obtaining a general understanding of what is a Pattern. It is a bona fide sample of goods which the sender has for sale, or of goods which he wishes to order. It is to consist of the smallest possible quantity compatible with showing what the goods are, and must have no intrinsic value.

To provide means of remitting small sums of money to or from this Colony and between the Ports of China and Japan, the Postmaster and Agents of this Office will in future be allowed (but not required) to purchase Hongkong Postage Stamps from foreign residents.

Between Hongkong and Shanghai, or Hongkong and Yokohama, however, in either direction, Money-Orders must be used.

The Stamps tendered for sale must not exceed \$50 in value, must be perfectly clean, in good condition, and in strips of at least two, as no separate Stamps will be purchased. They must be presented personally or accompanied by a note.

The Postmaster or Agent may postpone purchasing his public funds in hand are not sufficient, and he will refuse to purchase in any case which appears doubtful or suspicious. He is allowed to charge a Commission of one per cent on all Stamps purchased.

Letters containing Stamps should be Registered, and

Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Vessel's Name.	Anchors.	Captain.	Flag and Rig.	Tons.	Date of Arrival.	Consignees or Agents.	Destination.	Remarks.
Steamers								
Egean	5 h	Stewart	Brit. str.	843	Feb. 18	Linstead & Co.	K'loon Dock	
Albey	4 c	F. Ashton	Brit. str.	366	Jan. 18	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
America	4 c	Graham	Brit. str.	1000	Jan. 17	Birley & Co.		
Marathon Appear	5 h	Mastavish	Brit. str.	1392	Feb. 7	David Sason, Sona & Co.		
Alatana	3 h	Petersen	Ger. str.	782	Feb. 7	Meyer & Co.		
Alva	6 c	Rapalei	Fah. str.	2125	Feb. 7	Messengers Maritimes		
Bombay	1 h		Brit. str.	749	Feb. 12	K'wock Acheng		
Brisbane	6 c	Reddell	Brit. str.	801	Feb. 7	Gibb, Livingston & Co.		
Charlton	7 c	Johnson	Brit. str.	786	Feb. 7	Geo. R. Stevens & Co.		
Chinkiang	11 c	IT	Brit. str.	799	Dec. 21	Siemsen & Co.		
City of Peking	5 c	Berry	Amer. str.	5079	Feb. 2	P. M. S. S. Co.		
Dale	5 c	Prowe	Brit. str.	810	Feb. 7	Captain		
Douglas	2 h	Thompson	Brit. str.	657	Jan. 29	Yuen Fat Hong		
Emmy	5 h	Young	Brit. str.	864	Feb. 7	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
Fame	3 h	Blanco	Span. str.	222	Jan. 22	Remedios & Co.		
Glovers	3 h	Stopani	Brit. str.	117	Feb. 7	H. K. & W. P. Co. Dock Co.		
Hakon Adelstein	3 h	Jackson	Brit. str.	1647	Feb. 7	Butterfield & Swire		
Killarney	6 c	Berg	Norw. str.	904	Jan. 23	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.		
Lorne	3 h	O'Neill	Brit. str.	1060	Jan. 3	Gibb, Livingston & Co.		
Malacca	5 c	McCulloch	Brit. str.	1034	Jan. 12	Melchers & Co.		
Morsay	5 h	Smith	Brit. str.	1709	Jan. 30	P. O. S. N. Co.		
Norna	3 h	Butcher	Brit. str.	1427	Feb. 5	Jardine, Matheson & Co.		
Ocean	11 c		Brit. str.	606	June 28	K'wock Acheng		
Olympia	2 h	Edmondson	Brit. str.	971	Feb. 1	Geo. R. Stevens & Co.		
Pacific	1 h	Hernsheim	Ger. str.	783	Feb. 7	Siemsen & Co.		
Penedo	5 c	Cain	Brit. str.	652	Jan. 17	Siemsen & Co.		
Peroua	1 h	McKirdy	Bolg. str.	2297	Dec. 17	Jardine, Matheson & Co.		
Sea Gull	8 h		Amer. str.	48	July 18	W. H. Ray		
Taiwan	5 h	Abbott	Brit. str.	409	Feb. 7	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
Phales	1 h		Brit. str.	820	Jan. 29	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
Thingwall	5 c	Molten	Dan. str.	1677	Feb. 7	Meyer & Co.		
Zephyr	5 c	Rolland	Fch. str.	1000	Feb. 7	Messengers Maritimes		
Sailing Vessels		Beuer	Brit. str.	Russell & Co.		
Abbey Cowper		Carr.	Brit. bge.	699	Jan. 29	Meyer & Co.		
Agate		Pike	Amer. bge.	620	Dec. 20	Vogel & Co.		
Alden Besse		Noyes	Amer. bge.	850	Dec. 17	Rozario & Co.		
Alfredo		Pittaluga	Ital. bge.	909	Jan. 17	Borneo Co., Limited		
Arabella		Pearson	Brit. bge.	665	Feb. 4	Master		
Beethoven		Hay	Ger. bge.	340	Jan. 25	Melchers & Co.		
Black Hawk		Holland	Amer. bge.	1126	Jan. 13	Vogel & Co.		
Black Watch		Kennish	Brit. bge.	491	Dec. 6	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.		
Bury St. Edmunds		Kodakjee	Dan. bge.	713	Jan. 26	Borneo Co., Limited		
Chanel Queen		Lachuer	Brit. bge.	609	Jan. 28	Edward Schellhass & Co.		
Charles Maureau		Fuatrew	Fch. bge.	369	Feb. 6	Landstein & Co.		
Charmer		Lucas	Amer. bge.	1333	Jan. 8	Order		
Christina		Oapra	Nic. S. m. a. c.	173	Dec. 2	J. J. dos Remedios & Co.		
Cooran		Cooran	Amer. sch.	188	July 18	W. H. Ray		
Coloma		Hall	Amer. bge.	863	Nov. 23	Russell & Co.		
Commissary		H. Morris	Brit. sch.	900	ct.	Meyer & Co.		
Core		Pearce	Brit. bge.	556	Jan. 9	Wieler & Co.		
Cresswell		White	Brit. bge.	404	Jan. 6	Wieler & Co.		
Delphin		Lilenthal	Gen. 3 m. a. c.	238	Feb. 7	3 Messengers Maritimes		
Deus Freres		Chansen	Fch. bge.	357	Feb. 7	Russell & Co.		
Elizabeth		Oblesen	Ger. bge.	442	Feb. 7	Wieler & Co.		
Elizabeth Nicholson		Grieron	Brit. sch.	904	Oct. 27	Borneo Co., Limited		
Espérance		Guillou	Fch. bge.	272	Dec. 26	Carlowitz & Co.		
Eve		Merceron	Fch. bge.	327	Jan. 28	Meyer & Co.		
Fleeting		Guest	Am. sch.	829	Feb. 17	Vogel & Co.		
Fontenaye		Taylor	Brit. bge.	655	Feb. 7	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.		
Formosa		Formosa	Brit. bge.	744	Dec. 27	Edward Schellhass & Co.		
Forward		Vandevord	Brit. bge.	353	Nov. 19	Edward Schellhass & Co.		
Hall Columbia		Breterton	Amer. sch.	583	Dec. 19	Wieler & Co.		
Hansa		Densken	Gen. 3 m. a. c.	566	Dec. 1	Wieler & Co.		
Hasthurst		Gouday	Brit. bge.	87	Jan. 8	Vogel & Co.		
Herbert Black		Treat	Amer. bge.	573	Jan. 18	Rozario & Co.		
Highlanders		Hutchinson	Amer. bge.	1302	June 27	Vogel & Co.		
Holstien		Kidler	Gen. 3 m. a. c.	281	Jan. 10	Vogel & Co.		
Hilton Castle		Scott	Brit. bge.	547	Feb. 7	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.		
Invincible		Strickland	Amer. sch.	1450	Dec. 6	Meyer & Co.		
Irene		Yates	Amer. sch.	481	Jan. 12	Meyer & Co.		
Kirkland		College	Brit. bge.	543	Jan. 12	Wieler & Co.		
Lota		Larsen	Norw. bge.	417	Dec. 18	Siemsen & Co.		
Louisa		Dudfield	Brit. bge.	472	Jan. 18	Order		
Maria Louisa		Shierlich	Gen. 3 m. a. c.	425	Oct. 21	Lane, Crawford & Co.		
Marquis of Argyll		Erichsen	Ger. bge.	442	Jan. 20	Edward Schellhass & Co.		
Massie		McKeon	Brit. bge.	580	Jan. 13	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
Sumatra		Vidarto	Span. sch.	270	Feb. 7	Remedios & Co.		
Sydenham		Miller	Brit. bge.	1063	Jan. 7	Russell & Co.		
Theresa & Nelly		Garneau	Fch. bge.	358	Nov. 20	Vogel & Co.		
Thos. A. Goddard		Smith	Amer. bge.	682	Jan. 9	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		
Vicente		Tremoya	Span. sch.	518	Jan. 29	24 Remedios & Co.		
Wm. Phillips		Healy	Amer. sch.	592	Jan. 13	Captain		
CHAMPOA								
Cordouan		Bertaud	Fch. bge.	459	Feb. 4	Carlowitz & Co.		
Echo		Tozer	Brit. bge.	369	Feb. 8	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.		
Helene		Volgardsen	Ger. bge.	372	Jan. 18	Wieler & Co.		
Pacific Slope		Tank	Brit. bge.	799	Jan. 19	Russell & Co.		
CANTON								
Amoy		Drewes	Brit. str.	814	Feb. 6	Siemsen & Co.	Shanghai	
Ningpo		Cass	Brit. str.	761	Jan. 29	Siemsen & Co.	Shanghai	

Men-of-war in Hongkong Harbour.

Vessel's Name.	Anchors.	Flag.	Class.	Tons.	Guns.	H. P.	Date of Arrival.	Commander.
Men-of-war in Port, Feb. 1, 1879.								
Albion	6 c	Portug.	troopship	3800	12	450	Jan. 26	F. Marques de la Barrera
Armidale	7 c	French	Flag-ship (iron-clad)	1400	8	Jan. 23	Nellmoff
Fly	6 c	Russian	man-of-war	584	4	120	Dec. 21	M. McNeil
Iron Duke	7 c	British	gun-vessel	8787	14	800	Jan. 4	Wm. Cleveland
Lewpon	7 h	British	Flag-ship (iron-clad)	784	8	160	Feb. 7	J. J. Scott
Lily	6 h	British	gun vessel	700	3	96	Jan. 28</td	